

REMARKS

I. Status of Claims

Claims 23-34 and 37-39 are pending in this application. Claims 23-34 and 37-39 have been allowed. By this Amendment, claims 1-14 and 16-22 (previously withdrawn from consideration) have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and prompt early allowance are respectfully requested.

II. Allowable Claims

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 23-34 and 37-39 in the Office Action dated August 19, 2004. All other claims have been canceled in order to expedite the prosecution of this application. Accordingly, all rejections are moot and their withdrawal is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome and all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Prompt passage to issuance is respectfully requested. However, if the Examiner believes that any issues remain, she should feel free to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Appl. No. 09/559,844
Amdt. dated October 19, 2004
Resp. to Office Action of August 19, 2004

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that are required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No.19-2112 referencing MFCP.69390.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 10/19/04



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